Montezuma’s Treasure

In 1914, a man by the name of Freddie Crystal thought he had found the location of the famed Montezuma’s gold, the Aztec treasure Montezuma’s followers reportedly buried to prevent it from falling into the hands of Cortez and his Spanish conquistadors. Freddie Crystal believed that the burial place for Montezuma’s gold was near Johnson Canyon. He believed that the territory was claimed by the U.S. in 1866 during Indian wars and resettled to stay. Kanab was first settled in 1864, broken up in the town and went clear under the joist. Much to the locals surprise, Freddie Crystal believed that the treasure was buried in the area. Crystal had been working as a park ranger in the area and somehow had concluded that the treasure was buried there. Crystal had then disappeared for a few years, leaving locals wondering what happened to this man with wild ideas. Crystal had then disappeared and was never seen again.

December 14, 1970

73 million years ago

Over 20 species of dinosaurs have been discovered in the area. You can find fossils from different types of dinosaurs in the slick rock outcrops. Take the 1-mile round trip hike to see the tracks just north of Kanab.

1900 years ago

Ancient inhabitants cover the area of the Arches National Park and are thought to be the earliest inhabitants of the area. They lived in the area and left behind their tracks in the sandstone. These tracks have been called “tulip prints” or “lips.”

Montezuma's Treasure

In 1914, a man by the name of Freddie Crystal thought he had found the location of the famed Montezuma’s gold, the Aztec treasure Montezuma’s followers supposedly buried to prevent it from falling into the hands of Cortez and his Spanish conquistadors. Freddie Crystal believed that the burial place for Montezuma’s gold was near Johnson Canyon. He believed that the territory was claimed by the U.S. in 1866 during Indian wars and resettled to stay. Kanab was first settled in 1864, broken up in the town and went clear under the joist. Much to the locals surprise, Freddie Crystal believed that the treasure was buried in the area. Crystal had been working as a park ranger in the area and somehow had concluded that the treasure was buried there. Crystal had then disappeared for a few years, leaving locals wondering what happened to this man with wild ideas. Crystal had then disappeared and was never seen again.

In 1914, a man by the name of Freddie Crystal thought he had found the location of the famed Montezuma’s gold, the Aztec treasure Montezuma’s followers supposedly buried to prevent it from falling into the hands of Cortez and his Spanish conquistadors. Freddie Crystal believed that the burial place for Montezuma’s gold was near Johnson Canyon. He believed that the territory was claimed by the U.S. in 1866 during Indian wars and resettled to stay. Kanab was first settled in 1864, broken up in the town and went clear under the joist. Much to the locals surprise, Freddie Crystal believed that the treasure was buried in the area. Crystal had been working as a park ranger in the area and somehow had concluded that the treasure was buried there. Crystal had then disappeared for a few years, leaving locals wondering what happened to this man with wild ideas. Crystal had then disappeared and was never seen again.

In 1914, a man by the name of Freddie Crystal thought he had found the location of the famed Montezuma’s gold, the Aztec treasure Montezuma’s followers supposedly buried to prevent it from falling into the hands of Cortez and his Spanish conquistadors. Freddie Crystal believed that the burial place for Montezuma’s gold was near Johnson Canyon. He believed that the territory was claimed by the U.S. in 1866 during Indian wars and resettled to stay. Kanab was first settled in 1864, broken up in the town and went clear under the joist. Much to the locals surprise, Freddie Crystal believed that the treasure was buried in the area. Crystal had been working as a park ranger in the area and somehow had concluded that the treasure was buried there. Crystal had then disappeared for a few years, leaving locals wondering what happened to this man with wild ideas. Crystal had then disappeared and was never seen again.

In 1914, a man by the name of Freddie Crystal thought he had found the location of the famed Montezuma’s gold, the Aztec treasure Montezuma’s followers supposedly buried to prevent it from falling into the hands of Cortez and his Spanish conquistadors. Freddie Crystal believed that the burial place for Montezuma’s gold was near Johnson Canyon. He believed that the territory was claimed by the U.S. in 1866 during Indian wars and resettled to stay. Kanab was first settled in 1864, broken up in the town and went clear under the joist. Much to the locals surprise, Freddie Crystal believed that the treasure was buried in the area. Crystal had been working as a park ranger in the area and somehow had concluded that the treasure was buried there. Crystal had then disappeared for a few years, leaving locals wondering what happened to this man with wild ideas. Crystal had then disappeared and was never seen again.
CELEBRATE KANAB’S 150TH

FEBRUARY
- Balloons & Tunes Roundup

MARCH
- Little Hollywood Shootout

APRIL
- Spring Concert Symphony of the Canyons
- Earth Day

MAY
- ATV Fun Run
- The Amazing Earth Fest
- Kanab 10K

JUNE
- Jacobs Hamblin Days
- Sesquicentennial Date

JULY
- Independence Day in Kanab
- Pioneer Day Celebration

AUGUST
- Kane County Fair
- Western Legends Roundup

OCTOBER
- Red Rocktoberfest

NOVEMBER
- K-Town Turkey Trot 5K
- Kanab Treasure Quest
- Christmas Light Parade & Festival

DECEMBER
- Symphony of the Canyons

KANAB’S HERITAGE ITINERARY

DAY ONE
- Little Hollywood Museum
- Lunch at Kanab Creek Bakery
- Best Friend Visitor Center
- Heritage House Museum
- Dinner at Houston’s Trail’s End
- Campfire S’mores and Stargazing Tour

DAY TWO
- Hiking Kanab Creek at Best Friends
- Lunch at Best Friends
- Tour of Best Friends
- Iron Horse Restaurant and Saloon
- Sledding at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park

CELEBRATE WITH US ALL YEAR

As you are exploring Kanab keep an eye out for the plaques that line Center Street and take a step back in time to explore Kanab’s Little Hollywood walk of fame.

1. The Heritage House
2. Rider/Pugh House
3. Sixto E Johnson
4. Johnson/Hicks Hotel and Restaurant
5. Historic Kanab City Library
6. Kanab Hotel
7. LDS Church and Family History Visitors Center
8. Bowman & Co Building
9. Monument to Major John Wesley Powell
10. Levi Stewart & Dilworth E. Woolley House
11. Mariger Stewart House
12. James Hill Swapp Home
13. Nathan Adams House
14. Lewis Jepson Home
15. Charles R. Pugh House
16. Parry Lodge

HERITAGE WALKING TOUR MAP